

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DACCA 02938 311047Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 /062 W
-----311050Z 002862 /15

P R 310941Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4849
INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 2938

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, BG
SUBJECT: VOTE FOR ZIA PILES UP

REF: DACCA 2919

1. BANGLADESH RADIO ANNOUNCED AT 12:00 O'CLOCK NOON MAY 31
THAT WITH MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF THE VOTE COUNTED, ZIA'S
SUPPORT CONTINUED TO HOVER AROUND 98 PERCENT. THE TOTAL
VOTE IS APPROXIMATELY 24 MILLION IN FAVOR AND THREE
HUNDRED THOUSAND AGAINST. FIGURES ON DISTRICT VOTING
PATTERNS INDICATE THAT ZIA'S SUPPORT HAS BEEN FAIRLY
EVEN THOUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH THE NEGATIVE VOTES AJP
SLIGHTLY GREATER IN COMILLA AND JESSORE DISTRICTS. HINDUS,
WHO ARE MORE CONCENTRATED IN THOSE DISTRICTS, MIGHT HAVE
VOTED AGAINST ZIA AS A RESULT OF HIS CONSTITUTIONAL
CHANGES FAVORING THE ISLAMIC RELIGION. ALSO, FORMER
PRESIDENT KHANDAKAR MOSHTAQUE AHMAD, WHO HAS BEEN JAILED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DACCA 02938 311047Z

BY A SPECIAL MARTIAL LAW COURT, COMES FROM COMILLA, WHICH
MIGHT ACCOUNT FOR A FEW MORE NEGATIVE VOTES THERE. IN SPITE
OF THESE FACTORS, ZIA'S SUPPORT IN THOSE TWO DISTRICTS REMAINS
IN THE 97 PERCENT RANGE. THOUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, THE
VOTER PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN QUITE HEAVY, AND THE BANGLADESH
OBSERVER HAS PROJECTED AS MUCH AS A 75 PERCENT PARTICIPATION.

2. THE MORNING PRESS ANNOUNCED ZIA'S VICTORY IN TWO-INCH HEADLINERS. ALL PAPERS, BENGALI AND ENGLISH, ARE FILLED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS AND HUMAN INTEREST STORIES ABOUT WOMEN AND VERY ELDERLY PEOPLE TRAVELLING TO THE POLLS TO VOTE FOR ZIA. MANY OF THOSE INTERVIEWED RECOUNTED STORIES OF HOW DURING PREVIOUS ELECTIONS THEY HAD BEEN TURNED AWAY FROM THE POLLING STATIONS BY BEING TOLD THAT THEIR VOTES "HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN CARE OF." MANY PEOPLE PRAISED THE SECRET BALLOTS THIS TIME AND THE ABSENCE OF "HULLABALOO, SOLGAN-MONGERING OR MISUSE OF MICROPHONES AROUND THE POLLING BOOTHS."

3. ZIA HAS YET TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT.
MASTERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, PRIME MINISTER, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, REFERENDUMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA02938
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770193-0026
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977054/aaaaacsn.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2ee2cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DACCA 2919
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2452741
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VOTE FOR ZIA PILES UP
TAGS: PINT, BG, (RAHMAN, ZIAUR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2ee2cc8f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009